

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of February 6, 2007 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 5-9 as being indefinite. The rejections made by the Examiner are respectfully submitted to be incorrect as a matter of law. Nonetheless, amendments have been made above to attempt to address the Examiner's concerns.

Specifically, the terms "when" and "substantially" have been removed. The terms "upper" and "lower" have been changed to recite that one surface faces the other and the respective first and second legs of the intermediate joint. Accordingly, it may be readily seen that all of the formal rejections made by the Examiner have been overcome.

The Examiner indicated that claim 8 would allowable if rewritten into independent form so as to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has now been done. That is, claim 5 was redrafted to include the limitations of claims 6-8, and claim 9 has been canceled.

Accordingly, the present application should now clearly be in condition for allowance. Indication of such is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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